

UNCLASSIFIED TELEGRAM

11/1/77
XN BI 011 P 01
83NA

INDICATE
☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

| | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| FROM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES | | CLASSIFICATION [REDACTED] |
| E.O. 11652: TAGS: SUBJECT: | GDS SHUN, AR ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS | |
| ACTION: | SECSTATE WASHDC | |
| INFO: | AMEMBASSY ASUNCION AMEMBASSY BRASILIA AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO | |
| CHARGE POL-3 POL/R ECOM USIS DAO LEGATT RF CHRON AGATT SY DEA ADMIN CONS | ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044) U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS Margaret P. Grafeld, Director () Release (X) Excise () Deny Exemption(s): B1, B3, N, F Declassify: (X) In Part () In Full (X) Classify as C () Extend as — () Downgrade to — Date 6/7/01 Declassify on — Reason 25X1 | |
| | [REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES: INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: SECRET RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN ARGENTINA ARE MIXED. THE GOVERNMENT'S RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT OF A RESTRICTED RIGHT OF OPTION PROGRAM TO ALLOW PERSONS HELD UNDER EXECUTIVE DETENTION TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY, ALTHOUGH POINTED TO BY THE COA AS A SIGNIFICANT ADVANCE, IS HEARD ^{SEEN} BY PERSONS SEEKING THE "OPTION" TO LEAVE AS NO ESSENTIAL CHANGE OVER PAST PROCEDURES. THE GOVERNMENT STILL RETAINS THE RIGHT TO RELEASE ONLY THOSE PERSONS THAT IT CHOOSES TO. LOCAL BAR MEMBERS WITH DETAINED CLIENTS HAVE DUBBED THE NEW PROGRAM AS THE REAL TEST WILL LIE IN THE ADMINISTRATION "THE RIGHT TO PETITION". / PERMANENT ASSEMBLY AND OF THE PROGRAM. PERMANENT ASSEMBLY AND | |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| DRAFTED BY: POLFAHarris:ag | DRAFTING DATE 11/1/77 | TEL. EXT. 277 | CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: A/POLCOUNS:ACFreeman |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---|

LEGATT:KWScherrer (in draft)
 DAO:COL.PCoughlin (in draft)
 POL/R:DSmock (in draft)
 USIS:MO'Brian (in draft)
 CONGEN:MSherman (in part)

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION

OPTIONAL FORM 153
 (Formerly FS-413)
 January 1975
 Dept. of State

81F93
 50/52

UNCLASSIFIED

LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHT OF MAN MEMBERS STATE THAT THEY HAVE BEEN RECEIVING ABOUT THE SAME NUMBER OF REPORTED DISAPPEARANCES OVER THE LAST FEW MONTHS. THE POSITIVE NEWS IS THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS ARE GAINING IN STRENGTH. THE RECENT "MOTHER'S DAY" PETITION AND DEMONSTRATION ARE VIEWED AS HAVING NOT ONLY SENT A SIGNAL TO THE MURTA REGARDING THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE DISAPPEARANCE PROBLEM, BUT ALSO HAVING STRENGTHENED THE COMMITMENT OF THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED. THE MOST SOBERING DEVELOPMENT IS THE EXPECTED RETENTION AND IN SOME CASES PROMOTION OF SENIOR ARGENTINE HARD-LINE MILITARY OFFICIALS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANTI-TERRORIST AND ANTI-SUBVERSIVE CAMPAIGNS. HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS HAD HOPED EARLIER THAT THIS YEAR'S CYCLE OF PROMOTIONS AND RETIREMENTS WOULD SEE NEW, MORE MODERATE OFFICERS MOVING INTO POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY RELATING TO THE ANTI-SUBVERSIVE PROGRAMS. END SUMMARY.

1. UNION HUMAN RIGHTS SURVEY ———

IN AN EFFORT TO "DIALOGUE" AND SHOW THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS RESPONSIVE TO WORKER PROBLEMS, THE GOVERNMENT-INTERVIEWED NATIONAL TRADE UNION CENTRAL (CGT) HAS ESTABLISHED A SUBCOMMITTEE OF TRADE UNION LEADERS TO DEAL WITH THE QUESTION OF TRADE UNION DETAINEES AND DISAPPEARED. AS A FIRST STEP THE MILITARY OFFICER PRESIDING OVER THE COMMITTEE ASKED ITS MEMBERS TO PREPARE A LIST OF ALL LABOR LEADERS AND WORKERS WHO HAVE EITHER DISAPPEARED IN RECENT YEARS OR ARE BEING

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

Classification
UNCLASSIFIED

DETAINED. WHETHER THIS IS A SERIOUS EFFORT TO ASSESS THIS PROBLEM OR LABOR MINISTRY EYE-WASH REMAINS TO BE SEEN. THIS DEVELOPMENT TAKES PLACE AGAINST A BACKDROP OF HEIGHTENING WORKER DISCONTENT AND STRIKES OVER ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND A GOVERNMENT RESPONSE WHICH SEES THE PROTEST AS AT LEAST PARTIALLY INSPIRED BY LEFTIST AND TERRORIST AGITATORS.

2. POSSIBILITY OF DISBANDMENT OF JOINT SECURITY FORCES -----

ARGENTINE FOREIGN OFFICE POLICY COORDINATOR, CAPT. RAUL NELSON CASTRO (WHO HAS JUST BEEN TRANSFERRED BACK TO THE NAVY) INDICATED TO EMBASSY IN EARLY OCTOBER THAT AS PART OF THE PRESIDENT'S "PEACE BY CHRISTMAS PLAN", THE GOA WAS CONSIDERING DISBANDING ITS JOINT SECURITY OPERATIONS UNITS. THESE UNITS ARE COMPOSED OF POLICE AND MILITARY ELEMENTS, AS WELL AS SPECIAL CONTRACT PERSONNEL. ACCORDING TO CASTRO, IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S WISH TO RETURN ALL SECURITY OPERATIONS TO THE REGULAR POLICE AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE UNITS BY YEAR'S END. HE INDICATED THAT THE DISBANDMENT OF THE JOINT SECURITY UNITS WOULD ALLOW GREATER CENTRAL CONTROL OVER THE GOA'S ANTI-SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. EMBASSY IS SEEKING MORE INFORMATION ON THIS.

~~THE ARGENTINE OFFICE IN THE PROTEST ACTIVITY STARTING IN MID-OCTOBER IN WHICH THE SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVES HAVE BEEN KILLED AND THE OFFICE OF THE LABOR MINISTER HAS BEEN DESTROYED. HOWEVER, SYSTEMS UNDER THE HANDS OF THOSE WITHIN THE GOA WHO OPPOSE DISBANDMENT OF THE INTEGRATED~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

从“大跃进”到“大跃进”

~~XX~~

~~XX~~

~~XX~~

~~XX~~

C

~~XX~~

~~XX~~

THE ARGENTINE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IS CONSIDERING
A LEGAL CHALLENGE TO THE FALSE -- OR AT BEST "PREMATURE" REPLY
GIVEN TO A HABEAS CORPUS PETITION FILED FOR ITS KIDNAPPED
CO-PRESIDENT^N ALFREDO BRAVO. IMMEDIATELY AFTER BRAVO'S KIDNAPPING,
A HABEAS CORPUS PETITION WAS FILED AND JUDICIAL INQUIRIES WERE
SENT TO A NUMBER OF POLICE AND MILITARY UNITS WHO MIGHT BE
HOLDING THE ARGENTINE LABOR AND HUMAN RIGHTS LEADER. THE FIRST
ARMY CORPS FORMALLY REPLIED THAT BRAVO WAS NOT BEING DETAINED.
HOWEVER, A WEEK LATER WHEN THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ANNOUNCED
THE "REAPPEARANCE" OF BRAVO, IT STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN HELD
UNDER DETENTION BY ORDER OF GENERAL SUAREZ MASON, COMMANDER OF
THE FIRST CORPS. THE ASSEMBLY^S MAY DELAY ACTION UNTIL BRAVO IS
RELEASED, BUT THE CASE IS AN IMPORTANT DEMONSTRATION OF THE
FUTILITY OF THE PRESENT HABEAS CORPUS PROCEEDINGS.

ON SEPTEMBER 29 AN OFFICER OF THE DANISH EMBASSY ASKED FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING TWO ~~UNKNOWN~~ "DISAPPEARED" ARGENTINE

Classification

UNCLASSIFIED

Page 5 of 16

MRN

REDYAN; HAROLD
COUPLES — DR. ISMACIO IKONICOFF AND MARIA/LOTTURATO AND LILIANA
GALLETTI. ALTHOUGH DENMARK, LIKE ITS EC COLLEAGUES, HAS DECIDED
NOT TO MAKE GENERAL BILATERAL HUMAN RIGHTS DEMARCHES, ITS EMBASSY
HERE IS UNDERTAKING "QUIET INVESTIGATIONS" ON BEHALF OF HIGH
INTEREST CASES.

5. GOVERNMENT'S VOLUNTARY SURRENDER PROGRAM CONTINUES —
WEEKLY PRESS PUBLICITY IS BEING GIVEN TO THE REDUCED SENTENCES
BEING LEVIED AGAINST FORMER SUBVERSIVES WHO HAVE VOLUNTARILY
SURRENDERED. THE SENTENCES OF THOSE SURRENDERING WHO HAVE NOT
PARTICIPATED IN ACTS OF VIOLENCE ARE GENERALLY REDUCED BY ONE
HALF TO TWO THIRDS. IT IS ALSO PRESUMED THAT THE DEGREE OF
COOPERATION IN PROVIDING INFORMATION TO THE AUTHORITIES IS
ANOTHER FACTOR TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS
THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL SECRET AND WELL PROTECTED
"REHABILITATION CENTERS" IN SOUTHERN ARGENTINA WHERE THESE
PRISONERS SERVE THEIR TIME, WELL PROTECTED FROM THEIR FORMER
TERRORIST COLLEAGUES. SOME MAY EVEN BE LISTED AS
"DISAPPEARED". THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT
COUPLES SURRENDERING WILL BE ALLOWED TO LIVE TOGETHER AND
YOUNG CHILDREN WILL BE ABLE TO REMAIN WITH THEIR MOTHERS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

SIGNIFICANT ACT CALLING ATTENTION TO THE GRAVE "DESAPARECIDO" PROBLEM. (SEE RA 7700.) OVER 200 PERSONS PEACEFULLY ALLOWED THEMSELVES TO BE ARRESTED, RAPPORT WAS ESTABLISHED WITH THE POLICE UNITS, SYMPATHETIC PRESS ACCOUNTS WERE GENERATED AND MOST IMPORTANTLY THE MOTHER'S RESOLVE TO CONTINUE THEIR CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE (THERE IS AN OFFICIAL BAN ON DEMONSTRATIONS) HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED. THE MOTHERS ARE BEGINNING TO TALK ABOUT A PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION DURING SECRETARY VANCE'S VISIT SIMILAR TO THE ONE HELD DURING ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN'S AUGUST TRIP. THE "FAMILIARES DE DETENIDOS Y DESAPARECIDOS" GROUP (WHICH IS LINKED TO A GROUP WITH COMMUNIST PARTY ASSOCIATION) CLAIMS THAT 24,000 PERSONS THROUGHOUT ARGENTINA SIGNED ITS PETITION TO THE MILITARY JUNTA WHICH CALLED FOR A SEARCH FOR MISSING CITIZENS, THE APPEARANCE OF DETAINED CITIZENS, THE FREEDOM OF THOSE DETAINED WITHOUT CHARGES, THE REESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT OF OPTION AND TRIAL ACCORDING TO NATIONAL LAW OF PERSONS PROPERLY CHARGED. THREE OTHER PETITIONS ON THE PROBLEM OF THE "DESAPARECIDOS" APPEARED AS NEARLY FULL PAGE ADVERTISEMENTS IN LA PRENSA IN RECENT WEEKS. TWO OF THE ADS WERE FUNDED BY THE "FAMILIARES DE DETENIDOS Y DESAPARECIDOS" AND THE OTHER WAS FUNDED BY THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE MOTHERS OF THE PLAZA DE MAYO. A COUNTER ADVERTISEMENT APPEARED IN CLARIN SIGNED BY "COORDINATOR FEDERICO VOLPE". ITS MAJOR CAPTION WAS "HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL AND HUMAN DUTIES FOR ALL". THE TEXT

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

UNCLASSIFIED

POINTED OUT THAT SUBVERSIVES ARE THE FIRST TO CALL FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT ARE ALSO THE FIRST TO VIOLATE THEM BY KILLING INNOCENT MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

A RELIGIOUS GROUP ALSO IS PLANNING TO UNDERTAKE HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES. A CATHOLIC, PROTESTANT, JEWISH ORGANIZATION — THE INSTITUTE FOR HIGHER RELIGIOUS STUDIES — IS STARTING TO PLAN A MASS DEMONSTRATION DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON IN BUENOS AIRES TO PRAY FOR PEACE.

7. HIGH INTEREST CASES —

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE RELEASE OF MRS. DEUTSCH AND HER TWO ELDEST DAUGHTERS, THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE MOVEMENT AMONG THE HIGH VISIBILITY ~~REMARKABLE~~ CASES.

ALTHOUGH THE SUBVERSION INVESTIGATION AGAINST FORMER LA OPINION PUBLISHER TIMERMAN HAS BEEN DROPPED "FOR LACK OF MERIT" (I.E. INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE), HIS FAMILY'S KEEN EXPECTATION OF HIS EARLY RELEASE HAS NOT MATERIALIZED. (SEE BA 7716.) THE FAMILY HAS NOW DECIDED TO PURSUE LEGAL REMEDIES THROUGH A PETITION FOR HABEAS CORPUS. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE FAMILY HAS COME PUBLIC. ON OCTOBER 31, THE FEDERAL COURT OF APPEALS ASKED THE FIRST ARMY CORPS TO AFFIRM THAT TIMERMAN IS NO LONGER BEING ^{SECOND SPECIAL} HELD FOR INVESTIGATION OF SUBVERSION BY THE/MILITARY COURT. AT THE SAME TIME, THE COURT REQUESTED THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR TO PROVIDE THE REASONS FOR THE CONTINUED EXECUTIVE DETENTION OF

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

UNCLASSIFIED

MR. TIMKMAN. THE FAMILY'S LAWYER TOLD THE EMBASSY PRIVATELY THAT HE WAS OPTIMISTIC FROM A LEGAL POINT OF VIEW, BUT HE FEARED THAT DECISIONS IN THE CASE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE MADE ON POLITICAL GROUNDS. (A POSITIVE PRECEDENT WAS ANNOUNCED ON NOVEMBER 1, WHEN A FEDERAL JUDGE ORDERED IMMEDIATE FREEDOM FOR A BUSINESSMAN HELD UNDER EXECUTIVE DETENTION FOR ILLEGAL SUGAR TRANSACTIONS. THE JUDGE HELD THAT THE EXECUTIVE'S STATE OF SIEGE POWERS RELATED ONLY TO PRESERVING LAW AND ORDER, NOT ILLICIT MARKETING.)

IN THE ALFREDO BRAVO, CASE, NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS AND PETITIONS HAVE FAILED TO END THE EXECUTIVE DETENTION OF THIS IMPORTANT LABOR AND HUMAN RIGHTS LEADER.

THE DISAPPEARANCES OF EDGARDO SAJON, ENRIQUE RAAB, RODOLFO FERNANDEZ PONDAL AND JUAN RAMON NAZAR WERE RECALLED TO PUBLIC ATTENTION BY THE ARGENTINE PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION (ADEPA). ON SEPTEMBER 24, ADEPA ISSUED A STATEMENT THAT FULL FREEDOM OF THE PRESS DOES NOT EXIST IN ARGENTINA. THE ASSOCIATION POINTED OUT TO THE MANY DISAPPEARANCES AND DETENTIONS OF EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS, THE GOVERNMENT'S INTERVENTION OF LA OPINION AND SEVERAL INTERIOR PAPERS, AND THE MURDER OF SEVERAL JOURNALISTS AS DAMAGING THE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN ARGENTINA. THE ORGANIZATION QUESTIONED THE UTILIZATION OF THE STATE OF SIEGE AUTHORITY IN CURTAILING THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND CALLED FOR THE RELEASE OF THOSE JOURNALISTS BEING HELD UNDER EXECUTIVE DETENTION. A DELEGATION OF THE MOTHERS OF THE PLAZA DE MAYO MET WITH THE ADEPA LEADERSHIP TO URGE THEM TO GIVE MORE ATTENTION TO THE GENERAL DISAPPEARANCE PROBLEM; ADEPA REPLIED THAT ITS FIRST CONCERN WAS IN LOCATING MISSING JOURNALISTS.

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification
UNCLASSIFIED

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF FORMER ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA
HECTOR HIDALGO SOLA WAS BROUGHT AGAIN BEFORE THE PUBLIC'S FADING
ATTENTION BY COA'S ANNOUNCEMENT ON OCTOBER 27 THAT IT WILL FILL
HIS VACANT POST IN CARACAS WITH CAREER DIPLOMAT ^{CARLOS} ~~OSCAR~~ FEDERICO
BARTFELD. MOST LOCAL OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT BY NOW SOLA WAS
PROBABLY BEEN ELIMINATED BY HIS CAPTORS.

8. UK REJECTS SMALL ARMS SALE ———

IN LINE WITH A RECOMMENDATION FROM THEIR EMBASSY IN BUENOS
AIRES, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TURNED DOWN THE SALE OF TWO
DOZEN SOUND SUPPRESSED SUBMACHINE GUNS TO ARGENTINA. THE
PURCHASING ORGANIZATION OF RECORD WAS THE BUENOS AIRES
PROVINCE PRISON AT LA PLATA. BRITISH EMBASSY SOURCES
INDICATE THAT THERE WAS NO JUSTIFICATION FOR "PRISON
AUTHORITIES" ORDERING COMMANDO TYPE WEAPONS. THE BRITISH
ARE PREPARED TO SUPPLY LARGE WEAPON SYSTEMS TO THE ARGENTINES,
SUCH AS THE SMALL GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYER RECENTLY
DELIVERED, BUT HAVE DECIDED AT PRESENT NOT TO PROVIDE ARMS
FOR INTERNAL SECURITY PURPOSES.

THE UK PREVIOUSLY SOLD A NUMBER OF STERLING SUBMACHINE GUNS
TO THE PERONIST GOVERNMENT, MOST OF WHICH TURNED UP AT THE
IN UNION HALLS
SOCIAL WELFARE MINISTRY AND EXERCISE. THE VIDELA GOVERNMENT
FORMALLY PLAYED UP THE U.K.'S SALE OF THE STERLINGS WHICH
WENT TO THE PERONIST'S HEAVIES. THE LATEST UK REFUSAL
TOOK
PROBABLY REFLECTS THE VERY BAD BURNING HMG RECORD ON THE PREVIOUS

Classification
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

SALZ.

9. REPORTS OF EXCESSES

IN SEPTEMBER, TWO SHOOTOUTS WITH TERRORISTS IN BUENOS AIRES PROVINCE WERE REPORTED IN THE PRESS WITH THREE MONTONERO A RELATIVE OF ONE OF THE DECEASED WAS TERRORISTS KILLED IN EACH ENCOUNTER. / THE EMBASSY WAS INFORMED THAT THE YOUNG MEN KILLED IN THE FIGHTS HAD BEEN TAKEN FROM THEIR HOMES IN BAHIA BLANCA BY SECURITY FORCES THREE MONTHS TO OVER A YEAR AGO. THEIR FAMILIES WERE UNDERSTANDABLY SHOCKED BY THE NEWS

REPORTS OF THE THEFT OF TELEVISION SETS AND OTHER PORTABLE VALUABLES IS A FREQUENT OCCURRENCE ASSOCIATED WITH THE ARREST AND DISAPPEARANCE OF INDIVIDUALS IN ARGENTINA. A REPORT HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE EMBASSY THAT THE OWNER OF AN AUTO REPAIR SHOP WHO WAS "ARRESTED" AND THEN DISAPPEARED HAD HIS SHOP "SEARCHED FOR WEAPONS" SEVERAL DAYS AFTER HIS ARREST. ALL HIS TOOLS AND A FULL-SIZED BUS WHICH HE RECENTLY PURCHASED WERE STOLEN. LOCAL POLICE AUTHORITIES REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE DENUNCIA OF THE CRIME FROM HIS FAMILY. SENIOR MILITARY OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER SUCH ROBBERIES

THE GOA IS TRYING TO GET CONTROL OVER THE SECURITY FORCES TO PREVENT SUCH FLAGRANT ABUSES.

10. RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

PRESIDENT VIDELA ANNOUNCED ON OCTOBER 13 THAT THE NEW PENAL CODE WILL CONTAIN SANCTIONS AGAINST ANYONE WHO HARMS OR DISCRIMINATES AGAINST PERSONS OR GROUPS FOR ETHNIC OR RELIGIOUS

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

Classification
UNCLASSIFIED

REASONS. THE LOCAL JEWISH LEADERSHIP, THE DATA, WAS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED BY THE PRESIDENT'S WELCOME INITIATIVE.

POLICE RAIDS IN THE LAST 18 MONTHS IN ADDITION TO SOME 20 SCATTERED/~~XXXXXXXX~~/AGAINST JEHOVAH WITNESS MEETING HALLS, HOMES, AND ADHERENTS, THE JEHOVAH WITNESSES ARE FIGHTING A THREE SIDED LEGAL BATTLE WITH THE GOA. UNFORTUNATELY, THEY ARE LOSING ON TWO FRONTS.

THE WITNESSES WON AN IMPORTANT LEGAL VICTORY SEVERAL MONTHS AGO WHEN THE FEDERAL COURT OF APPEALS (THE NATION'S MOST PROGRESSIVE COURT) HELD THAT JUNTA DECREE NO. 1867/76 PROSCRIBING ALL JEHOVAH WITNESS ACTIVITY WAS AN UNCONSTITUTIONAL INFRINGEMENT OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. HOWEVER, THE DECISION IN THAT CASE HAS NOT TAKEN EFFECT AS THE GOVERNMENT HAS APPEALED TO THE SUPREME COURT WHERE THE CASE IS STILL PENDING.

IN THE FLAG SALUTING CASES, THE WITNESSES RECEIVED A FAVORABLE EARLIER THIS YEAR DECISION IN CORDOBA PROVINCE/WHICH BOTH ALLOWED THEIR CHILDREN TO RETURN TO SCHOOL AND VOIDED THE PROVINCE'S DIRECTIVE. BUT IN A SIMILAR CASE ~~DECIDED~~ IN BUENOS AIRES ~~PROVINCE~~ IN LATE OCTOBER, THE WITNESSES WON ONLY THE RE-ENTRY OF THE CHILDREN TO THEIR SCHOOLS.

THE ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ DECREE REGARDING HOMAGE TO THE FLAG, ANTHEM, ETC. WAS UPHELD. MANY WITNESS CHILDREN ARE DE FACTO BEING DENIED AN EDUCATION BECAUSE OF THEIR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

OPTIONAL FORM 153A
(Formerly FS-413A)
January 1975
Dept. of State

UNCLASSIFIED

THE LAST FRONT IS THE WITNESS' REFUSAL TO SERVE IN THE ARMED FORCES. THIS NOW APPEARS TO BE BECOMING THE MAJOR AREA OF CONFRONTATION. ABOUT 200 WITNESSES ARE SERVING PRISON SENTENCES FOR FAILURE TO WEAR ARMY UNIFORMS. THE YOUNG WITNESSES GENERALLY RESPOND PROMPTLY TO THEIR DRAFT NOTICES, BUT REFUSE TO CHANGE INTO MILITARY UNIFORMS. THEY ARE THEN COURT-MARTIALED, AND GIVEN 30 TO 48 MONTH SENTENCES. THEY ARE TREATED REASONABLY/DURING THEIR PRISON SENTENCES; SOME EVEN ALLOWED WEEKENDS AT HOME.

THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW PROSECUTING CHURCH LEADERS, INCLUDING AMCIT ARGENTINE BRANCH COORDINATOR CHARLES EISENHOWER, FOR INCITEMENT, CONSPIRACY, AND APOLOGIA (PRAISING A CRIME) IN THESE MILITARY SERVICE REFUSAL CASES. EISENHOWER AND A FELLOW WITNESS WERE SENTENCED TO 6 MONTHS TO 2 YEARS IMPRISONMENT ON OCTOBER 31. THEY WERE ALLOWED TO POST/BAIL AND WILL APPEAL THE CONVICTION.

11. ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE VISIT ———

RABBI ROSENTHAL, LATIN AMERICAN DIRECTOR FOR THE JEWISH ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE, MADE TWO BRIEF VISITS TO BUENOS AIRES IN MID-OCTOBER. ROSENTHAL WAS GUEST OF HONOR AT A LUNCH HOSTED BY THE CHARGE AND ATTENDED BY THE DADA LEADERSHIP. HE ALSO MET WITH OTHER LEADERS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY AND THE FOREIGN PRESS. THE FOREIGN OFFICE, WHICH USUALLY PROVIDES A CORDIAL BRIEFING FOR VISITING U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS WORKERS, IGNORED THE RABBI'S VISIT, PERHAPS IN RESPONSE TO HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

UNCLASSIFIED

THE FRASER SUBCOMMITTEE LAST YEAR ON ARGENTINA. THE FOROFF'S
COLD SHOULDER TREATMENT WAS INTERESTING GIVEN THE FACT THAT
ROSENTHAL HAD MET WITH BOTH VIDELA AND MONTES DURING THEIR
RECENT VISITS TO THE U.S.

ROSENTHAL RECEIVED DIVIDED JUDGMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE JEWISH
COMMUNITY HERE. THE DATA INDICATED THAT ANTI-SEMITISM AND HUMAN
RIGHTS MATTERS WERE GETTING NO BETTER NOR WORSE IN ARGENTINA.
MORE LIBERAL JEWISH COMMUNITY LEADERS EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN
WHAT THEY BELIEVE TO BE
REGARDING CONTINUING ABUSES OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND/A SHIFT IN
GOVERNMENT TARGETS FROM TERRORISM TO INTELLECTUAL SUBVERSION.
ROSENTHAL EVIDENCED SERIOUS CONCERN OVER THE LACK OF PROGRESS
IN THE ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. HE ENCOURAGED THE
DATA TO TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN PURSUING JEWISH AND NON-
JEWISH CASES WITH THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. HE WAS
PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE DEUTSCH, TINKMAN AND ^{STOULMAN} ~~SCHEIDT~~
CASES.

REGARDING THE LATTER, HE PASSED ON INFORMATION FROM THE
STOULMAN
~~SCHEIDT~~ FAMILY IN SANTIAGO THAT AFTER HIS DISAPPEARANCE,
STOULMAN ORDERED
JACOBO ~~SCHEIDT~~ HAD AUTHORIZED THE TRANSFER OF ABOUT \$16,000
NEW YORK A MIAMI OF TWO OTHER INDIVIDUALS.
FROM HIS ACCOUNT ~~SCHEIDT~~ TO ~~AN~~ ACCOUNT /~~SCHEIDT~~ ~~SCHEIDT~~

THIS POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF U.S. LAWS IS BEING INVESTIGATED
BY THE FBI. THE FUNDS TRANSFER EVIDENCE IS SERIOUS, AS IT
STOULMAN
POINTS TO EXTORTION OF THE ~~SCHEIDT~~ AFTER THEIR REPORTED
DISAPPEARANCES FROM EZEIZA AIRPORT.

Classification

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

12. PRISON DEVELOPMENTS ———

A MAJOR RESHUFFLING OF THE WARDENS OF ARGENTINE PENAL INSTITUTIONS IS LEADING TO "NEW BROOM SWEEPS CLEAN" REORGANIZATIONS. PRISONERS ARE LOSING SOME PRIVILEGES AS THE NEW DIRECTORS TAKE HOLD.

PRISONERS IN LA PLATA, SIERRA CHICA AND VILLA DEVOTO ARE BEING SEGREGATED ACCORDING TO THEIR POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS.

INDEPENDENTS, TRADE UNIONISTS, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ AND PERONISTAS ARE, ACCORDING TO ACCOUNTS WE HAVE RECEIVED, BEING GROUPED TOGETHER AND GIVEN THE BEST TREATMENT.

THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED SEVERAL REPORTS OF "APARECIDOS" SHOWING UP IN LA PLATA AND VILLA DEVOTO. ONE SOURCE INDICATED THAT APPROXIMATELY 80 MALE PRISONERS WERE RECENTLY PLACED IN LA PLATA AND 20 WOMEN IN VILLA DEVOTO. SOME OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN HELD INCOMMUNICADO FOR A PERIOD OF TIME.

~~FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME. SOME OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN HELD INCOMMUNICADO FOR A PERIOD OF TIME.~~
A NUMBER ~~OF THEM~~ WERE SAID TO BE IN VERY POOR PHYSICAL CONDITION.

13. REQUESTS FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM ———

IN THE LAST SEVERAL WEEKS THE EMBASSY HAS HAD TWO REQUESTS FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM. THE FIRST WAS MADE BY []
A 23 YEAR OLD ARGENTINE POLICE SECURITY AGENT FROM BUENOS AIRES PROVINCE. HE REPORTED THAT HIS COLLEAGUES HAD INFORMED HIM THAT COLONEL CAMPS, CHIEF OF POLICE FOR THE PROVINCE OF BUENOS

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

OPTIONAL FORM 153A
(Formerly FS-413A)
January 1975
Dept. of State

UNCLASSIFIED

AIRES, HAD ISSUED A "CAPTURE ORDER" FOR HIM. [] SAID THAT HIS LIFE WAS IN DANGER BECAUSE HE WAS A PERONIST STUDENT LEADER IN HIGH SCHOOL. [] SOUGHT LEGAL PROTECTION FROM THE FEDERAL COURT IN LA PLATA BY SUBMITTING A PREVENTIVE HARRAS CORPUS PETITION (SIC) DETAILING HIS ASSOCIATION WITH THE PERONIST YOUTH MOVEMENT AND HIS PREVIOUS INTERROGATION AND RELEASE BY THE ARGENTINE SECURITY FORCES. HOWEVER, WHEN THE COURT REFUSED TO ACCEPT HIS HARRAS CORPUS PETITION AND HIS HOUSE WAS PLACED UNDER SURVEILLANCE, HE DECIDED TO REQUEST POLITICAL ASYLUM.

IN MID-OCTOBER [] HINDLE ACTED ARGENTINE WOMAN, ALSO REQUESTED ASYLUM. SHE STATED THAT SHE WAS B, BEING SOUGHT BY POLICE IN BUENOS AIRES FOR INTERROGATION REGARDING HER SON'S POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. HE WAS PREVIOUSLY IMPRISONED IN RANSON AND WAS FREED BY THE CAMPORA AMNESTY. SHE SAID SHE HAS NOT SEEN HER SON FOR SEVERAL YEARS; BUT FEARS THAT IF SHE IS CAPTURED, SHE WILL BE TORTURED AND FORCED TO GIVE THE NAMES OF MANY INNOCENT PEOPLE. SHE HAD BEEN LIVING WITH HER DAUGHTER IN BUENOS AIRES UNTIL POLICE RAIDED THE HOUSE AND PUT IT UNDER SURVEILLANCE.

AN EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER EXPLAINED TO BOTH PERSONS THAT THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WAS NOT TO GRANT EMBASSY SANCTUARY. HE SUGGESTED THAT THEY CONTACT ONE OF THE LATIN AMERICAN EMBASSIES WHO WERE SIGNATORIES TO THE HAVANA

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

UNCLASSIFIED

Page 16 of 16

MRN

CONVENTION. AFTER LONG DISCUSSIONS OF THEIR SITUATIONS, BOTH
PERSONS LEFT THE EMBASSY VOLUNTARILY.

REASON

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification